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Many facts highly interesting in a scientific point of view are given in the Report, two or three of which only we have room to allude to. Among these, we would instance the diluvial grooves, noted on pages 28, 50, 59, 65, 91, 95, and 96, observed on the surfaces of rocks in different parts of the State, all running in a direction nearly parallel, from northwest to southeast; the interesting tertiary formations, mentioned on pages 24-27, 76, 95, and 98; the remarkable trap-dikes, noticed on pages 55, 71, 72, 87, &c.; and also the discovery of bituminous coal, detected, as it were, in the very process of formation. This last mentioned discovery is one of so much importance in explaining the origin of coal, that we cannot forbear quoting the whole paragraph relating to it.

"In Limerick, we examined the peat bogs on the estate of Mr. Ebenezer Adams, where a very remarkable substance is found resembling exactly the Cannel coal. It is found at the depth of three feet from the surface of the peat bog, amid the remains of rotten logs and beaver sticks, showing that it belongs to the recent epoch. The peat is twenty feet deep, and rests upon white siliceous sand. This recent coal was found while digging a ditch to drain a portion of the bog, for the sake of obtaining peat as a manure. About a peck of it was saved, and served to supply us with specimens. On examination, I found, that it was formed from the bark of some tree allied to the American fir, the structure of which may be readily discovered by polishing sections of the coal, so that they may be examined by the microscope. It contains, in 100 grains, bitumen 72, carbon 21, ox. iron, 4, silica 1, ox. manganese 2.

"This substance is a true bituminous coal, containing more bitumen than is found in any other coal known. I suppose it to have been formed by the chemical changes supervening upon fir-balsam, during its long immersion in the humid peat.

"The discovery of the recent formation of bituminous coal, cuts the gordian knot which geologists and chemists are endeavouring to unravel, and shows that the process is still going on."—pp. 80, 81.

Dr. Jackson has resumed the survey this season, and we shall look with interest for the result of his labors. The geological survey of Maine, completed in the masterly manner in which it has thus far been prosecuted, will be a monument to the honor of science, and must confer lasting benefits on the States under whose authority it is accomplished.

3.—*Romanze*. 1838. Cambridge. Folsom, Wells, e Thurston, Stampatori dell' Università. 18mo. pp. 47.

ITALIAN verses from a Yankee press,—and not only published, but actually produced, among us! Tender exotics these, for our bleak atmosphere; and their appearance must

be allowed to imply a considerable degree of literary refinement in a people who can supply a market for them. This little volume modestly comes into the world without the name of its author. We understand this, however, to be Signor Mariotti, an Italian gentleman, already favorably known here by a course of lectures, which are considered as exhibiting a nice discrimination of the beauties of his native literature. The poems before us are mostly in the form of ballads, or rather lays, compounded somewhat of the Provençal style and that of the old Norman *fabliaux*. Their subjects are borrowed in part, indeed, from these Norman themes; and one, not the happiest among them in its execution, from our own history, being dedicated to the Lady Arabella Johnstone, of Pilgrim memory. We select a few stanzas from the first poem in the book, in which Richard Cœur-de-Lion's squire, Blondel, discovers the place of his master's confinement, by chanting the verses of a favorite song.

“Tutto tace, la pace discende
Colle tenebre sull' universo;
La man stanca le corde riprende,
Si rinfranca la lena del verso;
E sugli occhi del bardo disperso
Si diffonde di lagrime un vel;
‘Donna, negli occhi vostri
Tanta virtude ardea,
Sì tenero, sì puro
Il labbro sorridea,
Che un primo sguardo, un riso,
Conquiso a voi mi diè.’

“Era il canto che il pianto solea
Trar dall' imo del Cor-di-Leone, —
Era il canto che al bardo valea
Dalle dame sorrisi e corone; —
Della Croce non havvi campione,
Cui quel canto non costì un sospir.

“Ma ecco, accetto al cospetto Divino
E' salito del bardo il dolore; —
Non è l'eco del monte vicino,
Non è il suon che sul lago si muore;
E' una voce ben nota al suo core,
Dalle torre la voce del Sir;
‘Deh! se così si mostri
Benigno il Cielo a vui,
Voi pur pietosa cura
Muova de' mali altrui,
Dei lunghi miei martiri
V' ispiri amor mercè!’

“Lieve, lieve, sul greve aer fosco
 Suona il carme del re prigioniero ;
 Ai suoi giorni pasciuti di toscò
 Il futuro traluçe men nero ;
 Di speranza un balen passeggero
 Dio clemente gl' invia nel martir.” — pp. 7, 8.

Another *chanson* is occupied with the subject, if we recollect aright, of one of the ancient *fabliaux* ; in which, the Crusader, Raoul de Couci, having ordered his heart after his death to be carried to his mistress, the messenger unfortunately falls into the hands of the lady's husband, who causes the said heart of her true knight to be regularly dressed, and served up to her, whether as a *pâté de foie gras*, or what other savoury mess, the minstrel doth not say. The lady's lament on the discovery, concludes with a stanza striking enough ;

“Dio vincente, Tu vieni ; conosco
 Questa calma foriera di morte ;
 Ecco, l' alma omai libera e forte
 Ogni senso d' affanno perdè.
 Oh ! nel mar del perdono infinito
 Tu ricovra uno spirto smarrito,
 Di gran pianto riscatto ti reco,
 Egli è teco, — m' accogli con Te ! ” — pp. 26, 27.

There are several other pieces, suggested by passing topics, executed with much grace and facility, and discovering, apparently, much skill in the management of the versification. This is a point, however, on which it would be perilous for a foreigner to decide. But it is obvious to any one, that there is a rich vein of poetic sensibility in the author, which we trust will not be suffered to lie neglected. We may add, that his turn of thinking has, to our apprehension, an air of originality quite pleasing, from a certain English coloring, mixed up with the Italian in these little pictures, and derived, no doubt, from his familiarity with good English models.

The volume is very beautifully got up and printed at the press of the University in Cambridge, the uncommon accuracy of which, in foreign languages, as well as the vernacular, may well be a subject of congratulation to every scholar.

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4. — *The Principles of Political Economy*, by HENRY VETHAKE, LL. D., one of the Professors in the University of Pennsylvania, a Member of the American Philosophical Society, &c. Philadelphia : P. H. Nicklin and T. Johnson. 8vo. pp. 415.

PROFESSOR VETHAKE'S treatise gives a very comprehensive view of the topics embraced by the science of political econo-